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CLAIMS

1. An absorbent, flexible structure comprising pseudo-thermoplastic starch fibers.
2. The structure of claim 1, wherein the starch fibers have a size ranging from about 0.01 dtex to about 135 dtex.
- 5 3. The structure of claim 1, wherein the structure has a geometric mean dry tensile strength ranging from about 10 g/cm to about 1200 g/cm, an initial geometric mean wet tensile strength ranging from about 2 g/cm to about 400 g/cm, and a geometric mean decayed wet tensile strength ranging from about 0 g/cm to about 20 g/cm.
4. The structure of claim 1, wherein the structure has a basis weight ranging from
10 10 g/m² to about 450 g/m².
5. The structure of claim 1, further comprising a plasticizer selected from the group consisting of sorbitol, monosaccharides, disaccharides, glycerol, polyvinyl alcohol, and polyethylene glycol, wherein said plasticizer comprises, based on total weight of the structure, from about 5 wt % to about 70 wt %.
- 15 6. The structure of claim 1, further comprising cross-linking agents selected from the group consisting of, polyamide-epichlorohydrin resins, urea-formaldehyde resins, glyoxylated polyacrylamide resins, melamine formaldehyde resins, polyethylenimine resins, Caldas 10 resin, CoBond 1000 resin, wherein said cross-linking agents are present in amounts ranging from about 0.1 wt % to about 10 wt. %, based on the total
20 weight of the structure.
7. The structure of claim 1, wherein the structure has an absorbency ranging from about $1 \frac{\text{g}_{\text{Water}}}{\text{g}_{\text{Dry Structure}}}$ to about $15 \frac{\text{g}_{\text{Water}}}{\text{g}_{\text{Dry Structure}}}$.
8. The structure of claim 1, wherein the structure has a total flexibility ranging from about 1.0 g/cm to about 75 g/cm.
- 25 9. A structure comprising pseudo-thermoplastic starch fibers wherein the fibers have a Tg of at least about -30 °C and the structure has a geometric mean decayed wet tensile strength ranging from about 0g/cm to about 20 g/cm and wherein said fibers have a size ranging from about 0.01 dtex to about 135 dtex.
10. An absorbent structure comprising one or more plies wherein at least one ply
30 comprises pseudo-thermoplastic starch fibers, and wherein the at least one ply has a basis weight ranging from about 10 g/m² to about 100 g/m², a GMDT ranging from

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about 40 g/cm to about 475 g/cm, an apparent density ranging from about 0.04 g/cm³ to about 0.12 g/cm³, and an initial GMWT ranging from about 2 g/cm to about 200 g/cm.

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